

I. Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims replaces without prejudice all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-43 (Cancelled)

44. (Previously Presented) A container comprising:

a base configured to provide vertical support to objects;

a pair of side walls;

a pair of opposing walls projecting above the base, each of the opposing walls presenting an exterior surface defining two downwardly-curved receptacles, each of the opposing walls including:

an upper edge; and

at least two grooves and four notches provided in the upper edge, an inner two of said notches extending deeper into the opposing wall, when measured perpendicular to the upper edge adjacent the corresponding notch, than an outer two of said notches, said each opposing wall extending vertically upward in between the inner two of said notches to a height above a bottommost surface of any notch;

two support members, each support member being pivotally mounted within receptacles of opposing walls to facilitate pivotal movement of said each support member relative to the opposing walls;

wherein each support member is configured to rest within pairs of grooves and notches of the opposing walls for effecting retention of said each support member at three different support

member rest positions, one of said support member rest positions being lower than the other support member rest positions.

45. (Previously Presented) The container as claimed in Claim 44, wherein the inner two notches of each opposing wall are configured to receive the support members to facilitate support of a second identical container at a first stacking height above the base, and wherein the outer two notches of each opposing wall are configured to receive the support members to facilitate support of the second identical container at a second stacking height above the base, wherein the first stacking height is different than the second stacking height.

46. (Previously Presented) The container as claimed in Claim 45, wherein the inner two notches of each opposing wall are configured to receive and retain the support members at a first support member height above the base, and wherein the outer two notches of each opposing wall are configured to receive and retain the support members at a second support member height above the base, wherein the first support member height is lower than the second support member height.

47. (Previously Presented) The container as claimed in Claim 46, wherein the inner two notches of each opposing wall have a first notch depth, and wherein the outer two notches of each opposing wall have a second notch depth, wherein the first notch depth is different than the second notch depth.

48. (Previously Presented) The container as claimed in Claim 47, wherein the exterior surface of each of the opposing walls defines two receptacles for effecting pivotal mounting of the support members to the exterior surface of each of the opposing walls.

49. (Previously Presented) The container as claimed in Claim 48, wherein each said support member comprises a single-piece, substantially C-shaped bar having two inwardly-turned ends, and wherein each of the inwardly-turned ends is disposed in a corresponding one of the receptacles provided in the exterior surface of each of the opposing walls, the inwardly-turned ends being moveable within the receptacles.

50. (Previously Presented) The container as claimed in Claim 49, wherein each of the receptacles receives a respective one of the inwardly-turned ends to facilitate pivotal movement of the corresponding support member about a pivot axis which is moveable relative to the container.

Claims 51-70 (Cancelled)

71. (Previously Presented) A container comprising:

a base configured to provide vertical support to objects;

a pair of end walls, each having a groove along an upper portion thereof;

a first retainer means;

a second retainer means being spaced apart and opposing the first retainer means;

wherein each of the first and second retainer means projects above the base and has an exterior surface, and wherein each of the first and second retainer means includes:

a first sidewall portion defining an outer pair of notches and an inner pair of notches, the inner pair of notches extending deeper into the first sidewall portion, when measured perpendicular to a top of the first sidewall portion on opposite sides of the corresponding notch, than the outer pair of notches;

a second sidewall portion disposed between the inner pair of notches and extending upward between the inner pair of notches to a height above the bottommost surface of any notch;

a pair of openings disposed in the exterior surfaces of each of the first sidewall portions, each opening having a concave-shaped upper portion and a convex-shaped lower portion, the convex-shaped lower portion having a middle section which extends vertically above adjacent left and right side sections; and

pivotaly mounted in the openings disposed in the respective first sidewall portions to facilitate pivotal movement of the support members relative to each of the respective first sidewall portions,

wherein each support member is configured to register within respective grooves and pairs of notches for effecting retention of the support member at three different support member rest positions.

72. (Previously Presented) The container as claimed in Claim 71, wherein each of the first and second sidewall portions is configured to oppose the objects vertically supported by the base.

73. (Previously Presented) The container as claimed in Claim 72, wherein each of the first and second sidewall portions is configured to provide lateral support to the objects vertically supported by the base.

74. (Previously Presented) The container as claimed in Claim 73, wherein the inner pair of notches is configured to receive and retain the support members to facilitate support of a second identical container at a first stacking height above the base, and wherein the outer pair of notches is configured to receive and retain the support members to facilitate support of the second identical container at a second stacking height above the base, wherein the first stacking height is different than the second stacking height.

75. (Previously Presented) The container as claimed in Claim 74, wherein the inner pair of notches is configured to receive and retain the support members at a first support member height above the base, and wherein the outer pair of notches is configured to receive and retain the support members at a second support member height above the base, wherein the first support member height is different than the second support member height.

Claims 76-91 (Cancelled)